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MEMBER OF BALTIMORE DRUG CONSPIRACY FOUND GUILTY

Baltimore, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that a jury returned a guilty verdict today against Marcus Steve Baskerville, age 20, of Baltimore, Maryland, in a federal drug conspiracy case. Baskerville was convicted of conspiring with Aaron DeMarco Foster, Keon Moses, Michael Taylor, and others to distribute and possess with intent to distribute more than 50 grams of crack cocaine. Foster, Taylor, and Moses were convicted of the narcotics conspiracy and related charges, including murder charges, after a separate federal trial earlier this year.

The defendant was indicted in January 2003 as a member of a violent drug conspiracy in the Lexington Terrace neighborhood in West Baltimore. The indictment was the result of an extensive investigation into the drug trafficking and associated violence in and around that neighborhood. Testimony from cooperating coconspirators and other witnesses, along with evidence from various related state arrests of the defendant and others, established that the Lexington Terrace group engaged in a wide variety of criminal offenses, including narcotics trafficking, murders and attempted murders, and arson. The government presented evidence at trial of the defendant's participation in the murders of Gregory Spain and

Ronald Harris on September 23, 2001, and the attempted murder of Charles Brockington III on that same date.

As a result of the verdict returned today, Baskerville is facing a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. He will be sentenced by the Honorable Catherine C. Blake on September 10, 2004.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Baltimore City Police Department, and the Housing Authority Police Force. It was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Stephanie A. Gallagher and Debra Dwyer.